

REAP Conservation Education Program 2004 Grants



2005 Governor's Conference on Environmental Education - \$25,598

Iowa Environmental Council

Rich Leopold

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Project Funded: Nov. 2004

Iowa Environmental Council, in concert with many EE-related entities, proposes hosting the 2005 Governor's Conference on Environmental Education in the form of a two-day "road show" conference, focusing on the needs and value of environmental education in Iowa. In mid-June 2005, the Governor and/or Lt. Governor would visit five sites (e.g. a nature center, impaired water body, school with an "Environment as an Integrating Concept" program) that have significant environmental education stories to tell.

2005 Midwest Environmental Education- \$15,900

Iowa Conservation Education Council

Carol W. Schutte

North Iowa Area Community College

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Project Funded: June 2004

The Iowa Conservation Education Council in partnership with North Iowa Area Community College will host "The Winds of Change," the 2005 Midwest EE Conference. This 2.5-day conference will be held in July 2005 at North Iowa Area Community College at Mason City, Iowa. This project will attract up to 400 educators, naturalists, preservice educators, university and natural resource professionals from across Iowa & the Midwest.

Connecting Iowa's Key Conservation Personnel to a Global Network of Habitats - \$52,404

Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program - Iowa Audubon

Ric Zarwell, Coordinator

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Project Funded: June 2004

Iowa has 37 high priority species of birds – those with seriously declining populations. Habitats that support these species are Iowa’s most essential bird habitats, called Important Bird Areas, or IBAs. The Iowa IBA Database contains 195 individual habitats in 86 counties. Our target audience is 150-200 land managers. We will establish and disseminate a library of cutting-edge online educational tools via the Iowa IBA website that, in conjunction with innovative and aggressive outreach, evaluation and follow-up, will result in restoration, enhancement, and improved management of Iowa’s IBAs.

Environmental Education in the Outdoors: Evaluating its use in therapeutic and other programs and developing a model for the Upper Midwest - \$11,235

James Pease & Sara Frankling

124 Science II, ISU, Ames, IA 50011-3221

Phone: 515-294-7429 E-mail: jppease@iastate.edu

Funded Nov. 2004

The intent of this project is to determine whether the benefits behavioral professionals attribute to outdoor therapy programs are, in fact, unique to outdoor programs with a therapeutic intent. This study will attempt to bridge the disconnect that exists between discipline of environmental management and behavioral health practices. The information obtained through this study will enable the creation of an educational model applying practices that promote human health and social development through the use of environmental education.

Expanding EE to Home School Families - \$25,659

Indian Creek Nature Center

Christine Kirpes & Jan Aiels

Indian Creek Nature Center, 6665 Otis Rd. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Phone: 319-362-0664 Email: janature@aol.com

Project Funded: June 2004

Indian Creek Nature Center is expanding EE for home school families with a second set of monthly programs for K-2, 3-5, and 6-8; four seasonal family programs; a training workshop for EE providers; and an internet home school EE resource center. Family programs include multiage activities, walks, and service opportunities. The workshop and the resource center will help EE providers serve home school families in their area. Travel stipends are available.

Explore Iowa’s Past to Present: Winter Solstice 2005 - \$17,215

Iowa Conservation Education Council

Wendy Zohrer

PO Box 65534, West Des Moines, IA 50265

Phone: 515-221-9893 E-mail: WZICEC@aol.com

Project Funded: June 2004

“Explore Iowa – Past to Present” is the Iowa Conservation Education Council’s proposed theme for Winter Solstice 2005. It will be a hands-on statewide workshop for educators

to explore Iowa while making the social studies, natural resources and the environment connection. The workshop will be held in January 2005 at the Conservation Education Center near Guthrie Center.

Focus on Food and Environment for Preservice Educators - \$17,985

Iowa 4-H Foundation

Judy Levings and Janet Anderson

Extension & 4-H Youth Building, ISU, Ames, IA 50011- 3630

Phone: 515-294-4764 E-mail: jlevings@iastate.edu

Project funded: June 2004

The Iowa State University 4-H program will provide intensive 6-8 hour training to pre-service educators at eight teacher training colleges in Iowa so that these students will feel more confident, gain more knowledge and develop positive attitudes about Iowa's environment and agriculture. The ultimate goal is to increase student understanding of food and fiber production, environmental impacts upon the land, and cultural needs of people from diverse backgrounds.

Hartman's After School Program - \$10,775

Hartman Reserve Nature Center

Sandy Fulcher

657 Reserve Drive, Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Phone: 319-277-2187 fax: 319-277-4420

Project Funded: June 2004

The After School Program (ASP) will provide environmental education activities in the schools and at Hartman Reserve Nature Center to middle school youth in partnership with ECHOES. ECHOES, a partnership between the local schools and youth serving agencies, is designed to increase student achievement in core academic areas by providing high quality after school programming to students at the greatest risk of academic failure.

Highway 65/5 Corridor Conservation Design Project - \$43,500

Urban Resources & Borderland Alliance Network

Jennifer Welch

1513 North Ankeny Blvd Ste 3, Ankeny Iowa 50021

Phone: (515) 964-1883 ext 3 Website: www.urbanwaterquality.org

Project Funded: June 2004

In response to development pressures along the new highway 65/5 and the Des Moines River corridor, this project provides a collaborative approach to community education and implementation of low impact development. The project will encourage adoption of conservation design by educating city officials, developers, and residents about sustainable growth principles.

Iowa 3 Rs Initiative - \$8,463
UNI - Center for Energy & Environmental Education
Contact Person: Susan Salterberg
Center for Energy and Environmental Education, UNI, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0293
Phone: 319-337-4816 E-mail: Salterberg@uni.edu
Project Funded: Nov. 2004

The Iowa 3Rs Initiative will make waste-related information, lesson plans and teaching tips available on a website for use by formal and non-formal educators. The initiative will also build on existing knowledge in the state by facilitating web-based and workshop-based sharing of information.

Iowa Project WET Workshops- \$30,080
Iowa Academy of Science
Contact Person: Marcy Seavey
175 Baker Hall
Phone: 319-273-7486 E-mail: iowawet@iscssun.uni.edu
Project Funded: June 2004

The Iowa Academy of Science will prepare Iowa preservice teachers to teach about Iowa's water resources and issues by providing training in Project WET (Water Education for Teachers). Preservice teachers will take part in activities developed with sound environmental education methods.

KinderNature: Iowa EE Guide for Early Childhood Education - \$39,936
Story County Conservation
Linda R. F. Zaletel
56461 180th St., Ames, IA 50010
Phone: 515/232-2516 Email: lzaletel@storycounty.com
Project Funded: June 2004

KinderNature is a developmentally appropriate environmental education early childhood and preschool project to include:

- * collaboration & coordination for an educational CD;
- * a website clearinghouse of activities, resources, & support; and
- * training & inservice.

It will serve as a model for other environmental education programs through conservation organizations, parks/recreation, early childhood programs and preschools.

Lions in Iowa! - \$21,730
Hartman Reserve Nature Center
Sandy Fulcher
657 Reserve Drive, Cedar Falls, IA 50613
Phone: 319-277-2187 E-mail: Sandy_hrnc@yahoo.com
Project Funded: June 2004

The Friends of Hartman Reserve will bring the exhibit to Iowa. The exhibit will be modified to make it relevant to an Iowa audience, adapt the existing curriculum, and coordinate use of exhibit to other nature centers and educational facilities across the state. We will develop a tool to measure impact of this project on the problem solving skills in students and adults who participate.

Lost Landscape Prairie Project - \$45,558
University of Northern Iowa
Daryl Smith
Science Education, RM 109, CEEE
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0294
Phone: 319-273-6049 E-mail: daryl.smith@uni.edu
Project Funded: Nov. 2004

The Lost Landscape Prairie Project will conduct a needs assessment with grade 5-12 teachers regarding prairie education. We will then write, field test, edit and produce prairie education materials that is cross-curricular and fits the science and social studies standards and benchmarks. A CD will be made and include the curriculum plus a teacher's guide. To complete the project, we will plan a professional development sessions and a summer Leadership Institute.

Math & Science of Architecture
Iowa Architectural Foundation
Kirsten Anderson
1000 Walnut St., Ste. 101, Des Moines, IA 50309
Funded Nov. 2004

The "Math and Science of Architecture" staff development class teaches teachers classroom concepts used by architects and engineers so they can be incorporated into classroom curriculum. This approach engages students in applying math and science to their built and natural environments.

Organic Food Production Education - \$31,084
Henry A Wallace Birthplace Foundation
Diane Weiland
PO Box 363, Greenfield, IA 50849
Phone: 641-337-5019 E-mail: haw@addc.com
Project Funded: June 2004

This project uses the study of organic food production to teach environmental science, language arts, reading, and agriculture to upper elementary students. Developed curriculum will be based on Every Child Reads teaching strategies and include professional development for teachers and organic producers. Materials will be made available for replication statewide.

Rain Garden Tool Kit - \$20,925
Des Moines Park & Recreation
Marlene Anderson
3226 University Ave., Des Moines, IA 50311
Project Funded: June 2004

The Rain Garden Toolkit Project is designed to address Iowa's water quality issues by creating and assembling educational materials that will increase public awareness and understanding of rain gardens, promote the use of rain gardens in places such as school grounds, businesses, city parks, and private residences, and give these groups the tools they need to start creating their own rain gardens.

Stewards of Beautiful Land - \$25,666
Trees Forever
Shannon Ramsey
770 7 th Ave., Marion, IA 52302
Phone: 319-373-0650 E-mail: sramsay@treesforever.org
Funded Nov. 2004

The overall goal of Stewards of the Beautiful Land is to educate community volunteers. A Stewards of the Beautiful Land course will be offered to inspire and educate volunteers about the use of Iowa's native plants.

Toddling on the Wild Side
Year 2 – Development, Implementation & Training - \$33,205
E Resources Group
Wendy Zohrer
PO Box 65534, West Des Moines, IA 50265
Phone: 515-221-9893 E-mail: WZor@aol.com
Project Funded: June 2004

“Toddling on the Wild Side” is creating an awareness and training program for parents and caregivers of one to two year old children. This two-year thematic series will provide the tools and enable adults to explore the natural world with their young child. This model will be made available to other environmental educators and childcare providers across the state of Iowa. Year one was piloted in 2003 and early 2004 and Year two will be developed, field tested, evaluated in 2004 and early 2005.

Tools to Achieve No Child Left Behind - \$26,572
Iowa 4-H Foundation
Judy Levings and Janet Anderson
Extension & 4-H Youth Building, ISU, Ames, IA 50011- 3630
Phone: 515-294-4764 E-mail: jlevings@iastate.edu
Project funded: June 2004

Food, Land & People (FLP), Growing in the Garden (GITG), and Where We Live (WWL) are curricular resources that marketed, delivered, used, and evaluated in Iowa educational programs. This project will correlate the lessons within each of the curricula to common standards and benchmarks and the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) questions for grades 3, 4, and 8 in science, language arts, and math. The results from this matching process will be used to improve the accountability and increase the usage, as well as to protect the original investment of state funds that provide for the on-going use of FLP, GITG and WWL.

Waste Reduction: Pre-Services & Teacher Initiative - \$14,154

UNI - Center for Energy & Environmental Education

Contact Person: Susan Salterberg

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Phone: 319-337-4816 E-mail: Salterberg@uni.edu

Project Funded: June 2004

The Center for Energy and Environmental Education at the University of Northern Iowa will conduct four to six Waste Reduction: Addressing the Overlooked “R” mini-workshops to teacher education majors at Iowa colleges and universities. The CEEE will also offer one Waste Reduction: Addressing the Overlooked “R” graduate course to teachers.

Soaring into the Future—Bald eagle DVD - \$19,000

Red Rock Environmental Education Fund (RREFF)

Kay Neumann and Janet Petty

2149 103 rd Avenue, Knoxville, IA 50138

Phone: 641-842-3972 E-mail: dfarms@pionet.net

Project Funded: June 2004

We will create a DVD-format educational tool that will include:

- 15 minutes of live action footage documenting Iowa’s bald eagles
- 6 middle school level activities in a computer/student interactive format, printable fact sheets, and
- public service announcements.

These activities will be correlated to the National Science Standards.